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HOUSE MEMORIAL 57

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008

INTRODUCED BY

William "Bill" R. Rehm

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT AN INTERIM LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A RETIREMENT PLAN FOR RESERVE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.

WHEREAS, applicants for positions as reserve law enforcement officers must pass the same requirements as those of applicants for salaried law enforcement officers regarding physical fitness, mental testing, background investigation and training; and

WHEREAS, applicants for positions as reserve law enforcement officers are required to complete hundreds of hours of training before they are eligible to be commissioned as reserve law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, successful applicants for positions as reserve law enforcement officers are required to spend thousands of

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1 dollars of their own money to purchase uniforms, weapons and
2 other equipment; and

3 WHEREAS, reserve law enforcement officers work side by
4 side with salaried reserve law enforcement officers and have
5 many of the same responsibilities; and

6 WHEREAS, reserve law enforcement officers place themselves
7 in front of danger to protect New Mexico residents and property
8 and make the state a safer and better place in which to live;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, reserve law enforcement officers volunteer
11 numerous hours every month and sacrifice personal time with
12 their own families to fulfill their law enforcement duties; and

13 WHEREAS, reserve law enforcement officers are called upon
14 in times of disaster and emergency to come to the aid of their
15 community and their state, and they do so without hesitation;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, reserve law enforcement officers face the real
18 possibility of injury while fulfilling their responsibilities
19 as law enforcement officers; and

20 WHEREAS, in view of their personal sacrifices for the sake
21 of their communities, reserve law enforcement officers may
22 deserve to receive retirement benefits as a result of their
23 volunteer activities;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
25 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico

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1 legislative council be requested to have the appropriate
2 interim legislative committee consider the necessity for and
3 feasibility of establishing a retirement plan for reserve law
4 enforcement officers to be funded by the law enforcement
5 protection fund and administered by the public employees
6 retirement association; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public employees
8 retirement association be requested to examine how the cost of
9 premiums for workers' compensation for the New Mexico mounted
10 patrol officers is paid; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public employees
12 retirement association be requested to conduct a study to
13 determine the actuarial cost of alternative retirement benefits
14 plans for reserve law enforcement officers; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the appropriate interim
16 legislative committee report its findings and make its
17 recommendations to the legislature by January 1, 2009; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
19 transmitted to the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative
20 council.